

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 110555 TOSEC 110839

10

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY:TH

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

NEA:ALATHERTON, JR.

S:RAHERNE

S/S:J.HOGANSON

----- 114560

O 070304Z MAY 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 110555 TOSEC 110839

NODIS

FOR SECRETARY FROM SISCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY, JO, LE

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: LEBANESE SITUATION (S/S NO.
(7609434)

1. PROBLEM:

HUSSEIN AND RIFAI PLAN TO GO TO DAMASCUS ON SATURDAY, MAY 8, FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH ASAD. IN ADVANCE OF SUCH OCCASIONS IN THE PAST WE HAVE GIVEN HUSSEIN A REVIEW OF OUR THINKING ABOUT THE LEBANESE SITUATION. I DO NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD TRY TO HAVE HUSSEIN PASS A MESSAGE TO ASAD ON OUR BEHALF BUT THERE WOULD BE BENEFIT IN GIVING HUSSEIN A DESCRIPTION OF BROWN'S RECENT ACTIVITIES SO THAT HE WILL HAVE OUR VERSION OF EVENTS TO MENTION TO ASAD IF THE LATTER ONCE AGAIN BRINGS UP HIS DISTRUST AND SUSPICIONS OF THE U.S.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 110555 TOSEC 110839

SECRET NODIS

ACTION ADDRESSEE: AMMAN IMMEDIATE

INFO ADDRESSEE: BEIRUT IMMEDIATE, DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY, JO, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE SITUATION

(A) PLEASE CONVEY TO HUSSEIN AND RIFAI IN ADVANCE OF
THEIR TRIP TO DAMASCUS THE FOLLOWING POINTS CONCERNING
DEAN BROWN'S LATEST ACTIVITIES IN LEBANON.

--IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH LEBANESE POLITICIANS, AMB.
BROWN HAS CONSISTENTLY STRESSED THE NEED TO GET THE
VIOLENCE UNDER CONTROL AND TO MAINTAIN THE CEASEFIRE,
SO THAT PROGRESS CAN BE MADE TOWARDS A RESOLUTION OF THE
PRESENT POLITICAL IMPASSE. HE, OF COURSE, BROUGHT WITH
HIM NO REPEAT NO SPECIFIC PLAN, AND HE HAS BEEN
SCRUPULOUSLY CAREFUL TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE U.S. IS
TAKING NO POSITION ON INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATES FOR THE
PRESIDENCY.

--AMBASSADOR BROWN SAW KARAME ON MAY 4 AND STRESSED HOW
ESSENTIAL IT WAS TO STOP THE VIOLENCE WHICH WAS THEN AT
AN ESPECIALLY HIGH LEVEL. HE URGED THAT KARAME, WHO
HEADS THE CEASEFIRE COMMISSION, BE AS TOUGH AS POSSIBLE AT
THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING AND DEMAND AN END TO THE
FIGHTING, AND PARTICULARLY AN END TO THE HEAVY ARTILLERY
BEING FIRED AT RANDOM AT INNOCENT TARGETS. KARAME SAID
HE WAS DOING HIS BEST BUT WAS FACING DIFFICULTIES.

--BROWN HAD A LONG TALK WITH JUMBLATT ON MAY 4. BROWN
TOLD HIM FIRMLY THAT THE WORLD COULD NOT ACCEPT THE
CONTINUED SHELLING AND ENDLESS FIGHTING. HE SAID
ELECTIONS MUST TAKE PLACE AND THAT JUMBLATT HAD TO ASSUME
RESPONSIBILITY ALONG WITH THE OTHER FACTIONS FOR MAKING
SURE THEY DID. WHEN JUMBLATT SAID HE WAS NOT CERTAIN
WHETHER ELECTIONS COULD TAKE PLACE AS SCHEDULED ON
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 110555 TOSEC 110839

SATURDAY, BROWN ARGUED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THERE BE
NO FURTHER DELAYS, THAT TIME WAS RUNNING OUT. WITH RESPECT
TO THE CONTINUED FIRING, BROWN SAID THAT THE FUTURE
VIABILITY OF LEBANON WAS AT STAKE AND HE STRESSED THAT THIS
MUST ALSO CONCERN JUMBLATT. JUMBLATT FINALLY AGREED HE
WOULD DO HIS BEST TO HELP STOP THE FIGHTING.

--ON MAY 6, BROWN SAW CHRISTIAN MARONITE LEADERS AND MADE

THE SAME GENERAL POINTS TO THEM. THEY EXPRESSED GREAT CONCERN ABOUT THE SECURITY SITUATION. GEMAYEL SAID THAT SECURITY WAS THE MAJOR ISSUE. UNLESS THAT WERE TAKEN CARE OF, THERE WAS NO POINT IN TALKING ABOUT RECONSTRUCTION. GEMAYEL EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN SYRIAN INTENTIONS AND SAID

THEY WERE CONTINUING TO COUNT ON SYRIA;

--BROWN HAS REPORTED TO US THAT THE SITUATION IS VERY FRAGILE BUT HE IS HOPEFUL THE PRESENT RELATIVE CALM MAY HOLD UP FOR SATURDAY'S ELECTION, PROVIDED THAT THE REJECTIONISTS OR OTHER HOT-HEADED ELEMENTS DO NOT STIMULATE A GENERALIZED FIRE-FIGHT ON THE EVE OF THE ELECTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FRUSTRATING THEM. HE IS IMPRESSED BY THE WAY THE PLA REPEAT PLA HAS BEEN TRYING TO MAINTAIN SECURITY ALONG THE LINE DIVIDING CHRISTIAN FORCES FROM THEIR ADVERSARIES IN BEIRUT.

END TEXT.

3. RECOMMENDATION: THAT YOU APPROVE THE ATTACHED MESSAGE PROVIDING BRIEFING POINTS FOR PICKERING TO CONVEY TO HUSSEIN.

APPROVE.....DISAPPROVE.....

4. DRAFTED:NEA:AR DAY APPROVED:P:JJSISCO
CLEARANCES:NEA:ALATHERTON, JR.
S:RAHERNE
SISCO

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, TOSEC, TEXT, NATIONAL SECURITY, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, PROGRESS REPORTS, REPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES, POLITICAL SITUATION, BRIEFING MATERIALS, CAT-B, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE110555
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARDAY:TH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840093-2037, N760003-0739
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760579/aaaacpkb.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 OCT 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <18 JUN 2004 by izenbei0, 3.4.X6>; RELEASED <18 OCT 2004 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACTION MEMORANDUM: LEBANESE SITUATION (S/S NO 7609434)
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, US, LE, SY, JO, (HUSSEIN I), (ASAD, HAFIZ), (BROWN, L DEAN), (RIFAI, ZAYD)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006